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THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council reiterating call for immediate end to hostilities in Yemen, asks Secretary-General to continue talks on mechanism to monitor cease-fire; deplores civilian casualties and destruction caused by military assault on Aden.

+ Security Council, in Presidential statement, welcomes cease-fire agreement signed in Moscow between Foreign Minister of Yemen and the Deputy Secretary-General of Yemini Socialist Party.

+ Security Council extends mandate of UNAVEM II until 30 September; declares its willingness to impose additional measures against UNITA, if it does not accept national reconciliation proposals by 31 July.

+ Donors pledged $68 million towards United Nations action plan for the restoration of essential services in Sarajevo; plan estimated to cost $540 million, with $254 million needed for urgent projects.

+ Second-round of inter-Tajiik national reconciliation talks conclude in Tehran; parties disagree on question of entry into force of cease-fire agreement; reaffirm their commitment to political dialogue.

+ Special Representative Yasushi Akashi discusses implementation of cessation of hostilities agreement in Bosnia and Herzegovina with NATO officials in Brussels; expresses concern over increased fighting.

+ Fifth Committee recommends General Assembly retain current level of funding for support account for peace-keeping operations through July.

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The Security Council last night reiterated its call for an immediate end to hostilities in Yemen. It requested the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy to continue talks with the parties to the conflict with a view to implementing a durable cease-fire and the possible establishment of a

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mechanism to monitor it. The mechanism, which would be acceptable to both sides and would preferably involve countries from the region, would also encourage respect for and help prevent violations of the cease-fire.

In unanimously adopting resolution 931 (1994), the Council strongly deplored the civilian casualties and destruction caused by the continuing military assault on Aden. It stressed the importance of a cease-fire covering all ground, naval and air operations, and provisions on the positioning of heavy weapons out of range of Aden. It also reiterated its call for an immediate cessation of the supply of arms and other matériel. The Council urged all concerned to resume political dialogue immediately without preconditions and requested the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy to examine ways to facilite a peaceful resolution to the parties differences and restore peace and stability.

Concerned over the humanitarian situation, the Council also requested the Secretary-General to address urgently the needs of those affected by the conflict, particularly, the people of Aden and displaced persons. It urged all concerned to provide humanitarian access and facilitate the distribution of relief supplies.

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The Security Council has welcomed the cease-fire agreement signed in Moscow today between the Foreign Minister of Yemen and the Deputy Secretary-General of the Yemini Socialist Party, Salim Salah Mohammed, who is also a member of the Presidential Council. The agreement was signed under the auspices of Foreign Minister Vladimir Kozyrev of the Russian Federation. The cease-fire, which comes into effect at midnight Yemen time, calls on both sides to refrain from the use of force and adhere to the relevant Security Council resolutions. It also calls on them to start a national dialogue for a final solution to the crisis and facilitate the work of humanitarian organizations, particularly in Aden and other conflict areas.

In a statement read out by its President, Salim Bin Mohammed Al-Khussaiby (Oman), the Council applauded the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy, the international community, the neighbouring countries, and the League of Arab States towards helping the parties in Yemen achieve a durable cease-fire. It demanded that all concerned fully implement the Agreement and the relevant Council resolutions.

Meanwhile, the Government of Yemen has declared its acceptance of yesterday's Security Council resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire and its readiness to cooperate with Special Envoy Lakhdar Brahimi in order to implement it. In a statement to correspondents at Headquarters today, Yemen's Minister of Planning, Abdul Karim Al-Eryani, proposed the establishment of a Yemini regional machinery to monitor a cease-fire and begin serious political dialogue, aimed at consolidating unity and democracy in his country.

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The Security Council today extended the mandate of United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II) until 30 September. In unanimously adopting resolution 932 (1994), the Council declared its willingness to impose additional measures against the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) if it had not formally accepted the complete set of proposals on national reconciliation put forward by the Secretary-General's Special Representative and the three observer States to the peace process, by 31 July. It welcomed the Angolan Government's formal acceptance of the proposals and strongly urged UNITA to do the same.

The Council called upon both parties to honour the commitments they had already made at the peace talks in Lusaka. It also urged the two sides to redouble their efforts with the aim of urgently completing work on the remaining points on the Agenda, attaining an effective and sustainable cease-fire, and concluding a peaceful settlement without delay. The Council declared it would review the role of the United Nations in Angola if a peace agreement had not been reached in Lusaka by the expiration of the extended UNAVEM II mandate.

The Council strongly deplored the intensification of offensive military actions throughout Angola and the worsening humanitarian situation. Both parties were strongly urged to grant immediate security clearances and guarantees for relief deliveries to all areas in the country.

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Representatives of some 20 donor countries pledged $68 million yesterday, at a conference to register support for the United Nations action plan for Sarajevo. The plan for restoration of essential services to the city is estimated to cost nearly $540 million, with $254 million needed urgently. William Eagleton, President of the Conference and Special Coordinator for Sarajevo, told correspondents at Headquarters today that he was pleased with the amount pledged, which would make it possible to implement the most urgent projects and prepare Sarajevo for winter. Many countries which did not pledge at the conference indicated they would do so later and other donors said they would give additional funds, after the action plan's initial start-up phase.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said that the conference was a first step towards the international community's goal of rebuilding war-ravaged Sarajevo. Donors would take part in the restoration process through an advisory committee that would review the plan's progress and provide guidance, he said. Governments could continue providing bilateral assistance or help through non-governmental organizations or UN agencies. The efforts of the international community would help transform Sarajevo from a symbol for terrible suffering to one of hope and a source of momentum for peace, he added.

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The second-round of inter-Tajiik negotiations on national reconciliation concluded this week in Tehran. The 10-day session took place under the

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auspices of the United Nations with the participation of observers from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Iran, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

The talks focused on the achievement of a cease-fire agreement and the cessation of other hostile acts, according to a United Nations spokesman. The parties elaborated and agreed on a definition of the notion of a cease-fire agreement, but diverged on the question of its entry into force. They did reaffirm their commitment to political dialogue as the only means for achieving national reconciliation, the spokesman added.

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Special Representative Yasushi Akashi held talks in Brussels yesterday with the Deputy Secretary-General and other top officials of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). They discussed efforts to implement a cessation of hostilities agreement between the warring parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina, according to a United Nations spokesman. Mr. Akashi expressed concern that the number of offensive military incidents had returned to the levels existing before the June one-month cease-fire agreement between the Bosnian Government and the Bosnian Serb authorities. However, he pointed out that there were no large-scale offensives underway from either party and that active fighting continued only in some local areas.

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The Fifth Committee yesterday recommended that the General Assembly retain the current level of funding for the support account for peace-keeping operations through July. It took that action in considering the reports of the Secretary-General and of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ). Several delegations said they would provide detailed comments once they had consulted their capitals regarding observations of the Advisory Committee.

Mohamed Aly Niazi, Assistant Secretary-General for Inspections and Investigations, updated the Committee on the April theft of $3.9 million from the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II). It appeared that an empty crate used to store bottled drinking water might have been employed to convey the stolen currency out of the area. Many staff working at the complex had been aware of the presence of the large amount of United States currency, he said. Officers from Scotland Yard had been tasked to investigate the theft.

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